

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/691,562

Examiner

Elizabeth Slobodyansky, PhD

Applicant(s)

SALONEN ET AL.

Art Unit

1652

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment 13 October 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 10-12,14,16 and 17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

The amendment filed October 13, 2006 canceling claims 3, 4, 7-9 and 13, amending claims 10-12, 14 and 15 and adding claims 16 and 17 has been entered.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10-12 and 14-17 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 15 have been previously withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dr. Mark Nuell on December 14, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 10,

line 3,

replace "pattern" with --sequence--.

In claim 12,

line 2,

insert --or-- before "cataract";

line 3,

replace "and" before "sensitivity" with --or--;

line 8,

replace the comma after "disease" with --or--;

lines 9-10,

delete "or reduced effectiveness of paraoxonase agonist or paraoxonase inducing or enhancing therapy".

In claim 16,

lines 6-7,

delete "increased risk of said disease, sensitivity to an organophosphorus compound or".

Cancel claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 15.

Reasons for Allowance and Response to Arguments

The 112, 1st paragraph, written description rejection of claims 10 and 13 is withdrawn in view of the amendment of claim 10 and cancellation of claim 13.

Applicant's arguments see Remarks, pages 7-8, filed October 13, 2006, with respect to the 112, 1st paragraph enablement rejection have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 12 and 14 has been withdrawn. PON1 Ile102Val allele has reduced paraoxonase activity. Therefore, the effectiveness of

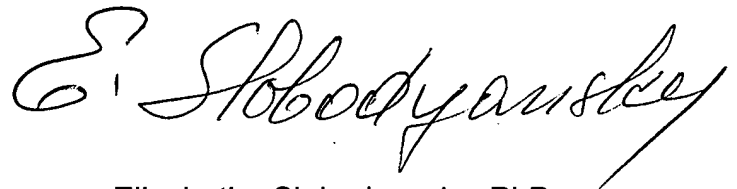
Art Unit: 1652

paraoxonase agonist or paraoxonase inducing or enhancing therapy will be reduced rendering new claims 16 and 17 enabled.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elizabeth Slobodyansky, PhD whose telephone number is 571-272-0941. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10:00 - 6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ponnathapura Achutamurthy, PhD can be reached on 571-272-0928. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "E. Slobodyansky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Elizabeth Slobodyansky, PhD
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1652

December 14, 2006